

[21 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

**Naxalite affected areas in Orissa**

2755. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether the State Government of Orissa has submitted a comprehensive proposal for revamping the intelligence gathering machinery in internal security and to provide vital link to naxalite affected district of Malkangiri, Gajapati, Raigarh and Koraput and also special action plan seeking special assistance for socio-economic development of naxalite affected areas in the above stated districts of South Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): An Action Plan from Government of Orissa, seeking Central assistance amounting to Rs. 268.84 crores for providing communication, education, health services, housing, rural electrification, safe drinking water etc. in identified areas of Orissa prone to extremist activities, was recommended to the Planning Commission in December, 1998 with the request to earmark separate funds for the purpose. The Planning Commission, raised certain issues in response regarding institutional measures to make the administration responsible and strengthen delivery mechanism through greater involvement of the people and suggested the preparation of a detailed strategy in this regard, certain aspects of which can be supported. The State Government has been informed accordingly.

Under the Scheme of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure, an amount of Rs. 3.58 crores has so far been reimbursed to the Government of Orissa incurred by the State in combating left wing extremist activities during the period 1.4.96 to 31.3.99. In addition, an amount of Rs. 24.50 crore (approx.) has been released to the State Government during the current financial year under the Scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces, for various items including revamping of the intelligence machinery.